Allocation of Kerosene to States

2631. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to allocate kerosene to States and Union Territories on uniform basis throughout the year; and

(b) if so, the quota fixed for Karnataka for 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). Based on options exercised by the States/Union Territories, 18 States/Union Territories are being allocated kerosene on uniform basis from November'91. The monthly quota for Karnataka since November '91 is 36975 MT.

Misuse of Funds by Organisations

2632. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the misuse of funds by any organisations getting grants for the welfare of scheduled castes/tribes have come to the notice of the Government during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Complaints regarding misuse of funds against three organisations viz. Rashtriya Shoshit Parishad, Delhi, Shri Vinayak Educational Society, Delhi and Bengal Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Development Society, 24-Parganas, Wese Bengal, have been received.

(c) Departmental enquiries into the complaints have been conducted and action considered necessary on the findings of the enquiry reports is being taken.

Pakistan's Providing Funds to Kashmirs in United States

2633. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJAPAYEE:
SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the recent reports regarding Pakistan's providing funds to Kashmiris living in US for carrying on propaganda against India; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFIARS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Government are aware of some reports in this regard.

(b) Government have repeatedly urged Pakistan to desist from hostile anti-India propagands which is in total violation of the Simla Agreement and vitiates the climate of bilateral relations. Government have and will continue to take appropriate measures to project the correct facts regarding Jammu and Kashmir. The international community has been apprised of Pakistan's support to terrorism directed against India.

Additional Staff to Regional Passport offices

2634. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH:
SHRI G. MADEGOWDA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide additional staff to Regional Passport offices at Banglore, Cochin and Trivandrum; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, office-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b). A proposal to augment staff strength in the Passport Offices is under consideration.

External Affairs Minister's Visit to Kuwait

2635. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he visited Kuwait recently;

(b) if so, the bilateral matters that figured in his talks with Kuwaitian leaders and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether Kashmir issue also figured in the talks; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir; I paid an official visit to Kuwait on February 15 and 16, 1992.

(b) My talks with Kuwaiti leaders included comprehensive review of all bilateral matters. These talks have led to further strengthening of close and cordial bilateral relations between India and Kuwait.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Kuwait has fully supported the resolution of all questions between India and Pakistan bilaterally and on the basis of the Shimla Agreement.

Supply of Cashew Grafts

2636. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Centrally Sponsored Cashew Grafting Scheme is under operation in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of cashew grafts supplied to Andhra Pradesh annually;

(d) whether the demand for cashew grafts in Andhra Pradesh is growing rapidly; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to supply adequate grafts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c). A Central Sector Programme for area expansion with clonal (grafts) planning is being implemented in Andhra Pradesh during 1991-92, under which Department of Horticulture of the State is being provided Central assistance @ Rs. 9 per graft.

(d) and (e). To meet the growing demand, it is proposed to distribute one lakh cashew grafts in Andhra Pradesh during 1992-93.

Production by ONG

2637. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the production of ONGC during the last three years and profit earned by it during the said period;

(b) whether there is continuous deterioration in production as well as profit and if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the installed capacity of ONGC units and the achievements; and

(d) the steps the Government have taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b).